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Calling all cars

Those who still use the term “send a black-and-white” when calling for police assistance will soon have their words taken literally. By the end of the year, nearly half of Bloomington’s 25 patrol cars will be replaced with black-and-white models.

Frequent replacements

Each year about 10 cars are replaced due to the demands of police work, but

this is the first time in almost 35 years the Police Department has gone to black-and-white. In 1990, officers voted for this color change, but replacement cost at that time was high.

Affordable alternative

Now Ford produces a specially made black-and-white patrol car which costs no more than the current all-white cars. These new squads will also run more

efficiently with energy-saving light bars and lower maintenance features. Replacement of the entire fleet will be complete by the end of 2003. ♦



Facilities Update



Chilton stone – a colorful addition to new facility

Nearly 100 workers are busy hanging duct work, framing windows and pulling electrical cables at the construction site at 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road. Installation of the exterior finishes on the new Police/City Hall/Arts Center including stone, brick, wood and copper is also in progress. Stone, the most precious of these natural materials, will cover approximately one-third or 11,500 square feet of the building’s exterior. Brick and

copper were selected to complement the many colors in the stone.

Midwestern stone

Two types of Midwestern stone, symbolizing the stability of the new facility and long-lasting service, will clad the exterior. Chilton, one of the most colorful limestones available with colors of purple, green, yellow and gray, is the primary stone used. Quarried in eastern Wisconsin from the geological formation known as the Niagara Ledge, Chilton is supplied by the Buechel Stone Corporation, a three generation family-owned business. Kasota stone, quarried near Mankato, will trim the windows and doors. This stone arrives polished and has

a refined natural look that is gray to yellow in color.

Setting the stone

Ten stonemasons are on site. It takes two Omasons to set each stone. Each stone is three feet long and can weigh up to 100 pounds. *See photo above right.* A thick mortar is applied and hardens in about two days. Application of the stone will take approximately five months.



The facility will house City and Police administrative functions, underground parking for Police vehicles and an arts center including performing and visual arts space. The

main customer service areas and City Council Chambers are on the east side overlooking a landscaped area and pond. The facility will open to serve the public in early summer 2003. ♦

Multi-functioning facility

The facility will house City and Police administrative functions, underground parking for Police vehicles and an arts center including performing and visual arts space. The

For more information, call Clark Arneson at 952-563-8921 or E-mail carneson@ci.bloomington.mn.us. View the progress on the facility on our Web site, www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword “webcam.” ♦

Layers of color

Chilton stone was created over thousands of years from sedimentary deposits that produced multi-hued layers in the rock formation. When mined, the stone is cut horizontally in three-to five-inch thick slabs. Thus, splitting the stone in half lengthwise may reveal a different color. For aesthetics, the masons try to mix the colors as they lay the stone. ♦



True artists

Pete Reid and Udo Walter, stonemasons laying the Chilton and Kasota stone, are true artists when it comes to masonry. Together they have more than 56 years experience setting stones.

Walter is one of the area’s premiere stonemasons. Several projects he has worked on have won the Award of Excellence in Design and Craftsmanship from the Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Contractors Association. At the age of 16, Walter apprenticed in his native Berlin, Germany. Soon after, he immigrated to the U.S. and has lived in Richfield since 1962. He will retire in January after 40 years as a stonemason.



Walter and Reid have worked together on many local projects. ♦

The concrete and masonry subcontractor for this project is Stellar Concrete and Masonry.

Reid hails from England and has lived in this country since 1986. He attended a three-year apprenticeship program in Minneapolis. Reid’s handiwork can be seen on the brick facade of the mixed-use Woodlake Centre at 66th and Lyndale in Richfield.



Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority

The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority tries to respond to all of our citizens' needs... whether providing affordable housing or investing in neighborhoods and commercial areas.

Regina Harris,
BHRA Administrator

Mayor Gene Winstead

Quality housing increases our quality of life

Bloomington's workforce is more than 107,000 jobs strong. These jobs are important to the economic well-being of our community because businesses that strengthen our tax base are attracted to a stable and diverse workforce. The fact is, there are about 22,000 more jobs in our city than residents.

Why is it important to provide affordable housing for some of these workers? The many levels of jobs in our city, including hospitality, manufacturing, clerical and professional, attract a diverse group of individuals with varied housing needs. Bloomington is a more solid community if it has quality housing in all price ranges. If people can live where they work, quality of life improves as the stress, cost of commuting and traffic congestion decrease.

For more than thirty years, the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority (BHRA) has preserved and renewed our community through rehabilitation and redevelopment. Governed by a five-member commission appointed by the Council, one of the BHRA's functions is to provide affordable housing.

Serving our community

The BHRA helps provide housing for those who are not adequately served by the marketplace. Working families are one example, but low-income seniors or people with special needs are also candidates for

BEFORE



At 85th and Lyndale, affordable rental townhomes for families have replaced five deteriorating duplexes. Lyndale Townhomes is a BHRA redevelopment.



AFTER

A machine shop, gas station and fire training tower at 94th and Lyndale were redeveloped into Garfield Commons, a 21-unit apartment building for the mobility-impaired. The BHRA purchased the land, demolished the buildings, performed an environmental cleanup and sold the property for redevelopment.



An abandoned lumber company, an office building and a gas station stand at 94th and Lyndale. The BHRA acquired two of the three properties to assist the developer with redeveloping the parcels into a proposed 114-unit senior cooperative.

BEFORE



PROPOSED

Commercial redevelopment

The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority plays an active role in revitalizing the commercial areas in our city. The Oxboro Redevelopment Project on the southeast corner of 98th and Lyndale transformed a 30-year old commercial strip into a successful retail hub. The 95,000 square-foot retail shopping center was a joint effort of the BHRA, City of Bloomington and Oxboro Redevelopment Company. ♦



2001 BHRA Stats

- 86 Low interest rehab loans for homeowners
- 214 Maintenance visits for elderly homeowners
- 504 Households provided with rent assistance
- 42 BHRA owned rental homes/public housing

Bloomington City Council

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Photographs of elected officials are presented by the City of Bloomington for informational purposes only.

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Visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us.

The **Briefing**, a bimonthly newsletter published by the municipal government organization of the City of Bloomington, Minnesota, is mailed to Bloomington residents and businesses. Direct comments or suggestions to Communications Administrator Diann Kirby, City of Bloomington, 2215 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3096; phone 952-563-8818; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; e-mail dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us. If you require Braille, larger print or computer disk, contact Diann Kirby, 952-563-8818.

The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status or status with regard to public assistance in employment or the provision of services. ♦ The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as required by Section 35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice Regulations, and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as mandated by Section 8.53 of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations. For information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 2215 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3096; phone: 952-563-8700; TTY: 952-563-8740.

Transportation Update

Council drafts street reconstruction policy

In April, the City Council directed the Traffic and Transportation Advisory Commission (TTAC) to study the Pavement Management Program regarding residential street design policy. Included in the study were:

- ◆ Curb and gutter design.
- ◆ Width of reconstructed residential streets.
- ◆ Parking restrictions.

TTAC presented its recommendations to the City Council in July. These were discussed by Council and then put into draft policy statements which address the following:

1. Continuation of the current policy

- ◆ Curb and gutter will be used on all new residential street construction and reconstruction projects.

- ◆ Existing residential streets with curb and gutter will be reconstructed to current widths.

2. Proposed policy changes

The City Council is considering changes to the Pavement Management Program's policies on residential streets **that currently do not have curb and gutter.**

- ◆ Existing residential streets without curb and gutter will be reconstructed to a face-of-curb width of 28 to 32 feet, rather than the current width of 36 feet. Streets may vary from this width in unique situations.

- ◆ Parking restrictions will be in effect for streets 28 feet in width or less.

For more information, call Engineering at 952-563-4870. To view the full draft policies,

Open house to be held

The Traffic and Transportation Advisory Commission will host an open house and hearing on **Thursday, October 24, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the Public Works Facility, 1700 W. 98th Street.** Information will be presented on the new policies in a storyboard format. Questions and comments from the public are welcomed.

visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword "street reconstruction." ◆

Penn Avenue and I-494 interchange improvement

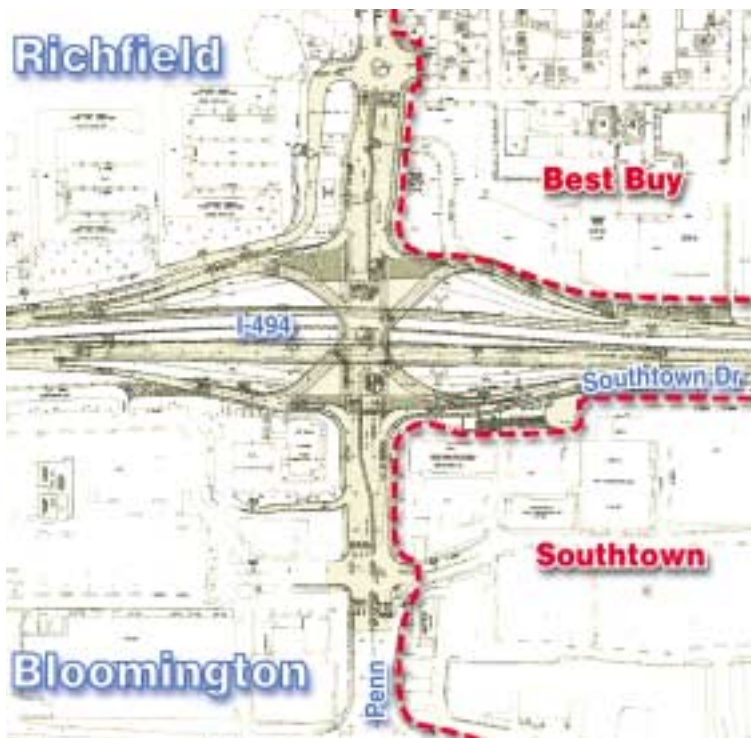
Construction on the new Penn Avenue bridge across I-494 is on schedule and will soon open to traffic. The interchange was closed in January 2002 to facilitate the bridge reconstruction.

New design

The Penn Avenue bridge is being built to fit the design of the eventual widening of the I-494 corridor. The new bridge will have two through lanes, two left-turn lanes and sidewalks in each direction. The design includes one traffic signal instead of two to improve traffic flow.

Funding

The bridge improvements are being made at least a decade earlier than planned to accommodate the traffic expected when the Best Buy Corporation opens its corporate campus in Richfield at Penn Avenue. Best Buy will fund approximately half of the cost of the bridge reconstruction. The cities of Richfield and Bloomington, Hennepin County, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration have also worked cooperatively to secure funding for the project.



Temporary ramp

A temporary exit off eastbound I-494 to Xerxes Avenue was built for use throughout the entire reconstruction. A temporary signal was constructed at Xerxes Avenue and Southtown Drive so that Southtown area businesses could be accessed from the west. The exit ramp and signal at Xerxes Avenue will be removed when the Penn

Avenue bridge construction is complete.

Alternative routes and signs are provided on the interstates as well as city roadways during construction. The new bridge is scheduled to reopen to traffic in fall 2002 with final completion scheduled for July 2003.

For more information, call the Public Works Engineering Division at 952-563-4870. ◆

Finance

Chief Financial Officer appointed

Lori Economy-Scholler became the new Chief Financial Officer for the City of Bloomington on October 2. Economy-Scholler has been Treasury Division Director for the City of Minneapolis for the past six years, where she supervised 65 staff members. She is a trustee of the Minneapolis Fire Relief Association. Economy-Scholler holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant. Prior to her tenure with the City of Minneapolis, Economy-Scholler spent seven years as a Senior Local Government Auditor with the State Auditor's Office. ◆



Council approves preliminary levy for 2003

The City Council has approved a preliminary levy of \$32,274,623 for 2003, a 4.9 percent increase over 2002. The increase is comprised of 3 percent for the City's primary operations, 0.2 percent for debt and 1.7 percent for the Fire Pension levy. The preliminary levy can be reduced, but not increased, before final adoption in December. The City has traditionally made a reduction between preliminary and final levy adoption. The average annual increase in the City's levy has been 2.4 percent over the last 10 years.

City staff uses a five-year planning model that considers both short-term and future needs of our community to prepare the preliminary levy. Future tax increases are estimated to be in the 3.5 to 5.5 percent range before analysis and refinements. The levy increase for 2003 operations of 3 percent is within established guidelines which consider community growth and estimated inflation.

2003 budget

The Council approved a preliminary general operating fund budget of \$44,994,154, a 5.5 percent increase over the 2002 budget of \$42,652,517. City staffing levels will not increase for 2003.

Tax impact

Residential properties averaged a 10.3 percent increase in market value. The City's tax levy increase of 4.9 percent results in an increase of \$4.52 to \$52.09 per month for the average house in Bloomington which is valued at \$202,500.

Note: The Truth in Taxation Hearing is Monday, December 2, at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers. ◆

Keep water meters from freezing

Protect your water meter this winter! During sub-zero temperatures, water meters housed in well pits or enclosed closets may freeze and break. To avoid a potential problem, allow heat to circulate around the meter by leaving the access unobstructed and the door to the meter closet open. ◆

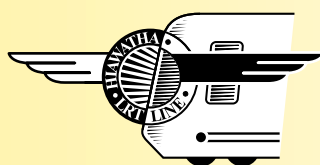
City wins two communications awards

The City of Bloomington recently brought home two awards from a national ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The *Bloomington Briefing* received an Award of Excellence (third place) from the City-County Communications and Marketing Association (3CMA). "The newsletter has excellent content, interest and layout," noted the judges. "Superb job!"

Also, the City's Intranet site - "City Biz" - captured a second place Silver Circle Award in the national competition. Judges called the internal Web site "a very warm and inviting site... Thought and care went into creating this useful tool for employees."

3CMA's annual awards salute skilled and effective communication efforts by cities and counties throughout the country. ◆



LRT construction nearing halfway mark

Construction of the Light Rail Transit Line (LRT) along the Hiawatha Avenue Corridor is currently about 50 percent complete. When finished, the LRT will connect downtown Minneapolis, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America. Full service will begin late 2004. For more information, call 651-284-0502 or E-mail: LRT@dot.state.mn.us. ◆

Track facts

Cost: \$675.4 million.
Length: 11.6 miles.
Ridership projection: 19,300 per day in 2004. 24,800 per day by 2020.
Stations: 17 locations.
Speed: 35 mph with a maximum of 55 mph.
Power: Electrically from overhead lines.

EARTH ACTION

For more information, call Recycling/Solid Waste at 952-563-8750.



Your environment and your money Valuable resources worth saving

Headlines are filled with bad news: the declining stock market, the downturn of the economy and the serious effects of global warming. The good news is we can all make changes that will minimize our impact on the environment and lessen the financial stress in our lives. Treat waste as a resource, buy recycled products and reuse items. No matter how small your effort, your actions can make a difference. Spend your resources wisely and you will be protecting our most valuable resource: the Earth.



Waste as a resource

Did you know that a garbage dump is filled with valuable resources? As we consider our sustainability and conserving our natural resources, we have to change our minds about waste and its value. Recycling companies pay for materials such as aluminum. Electronic products contain

valuable glass, metals and plastics that can be used to make other products. Organic matter in the garbage can be processed into compost, to use as top quality lawn and garden fertilizer.

Reusing and recycling waste saves money by conserving raw materials and using resources more effi-

ciently in the production of products. By treating waste as a resource we reduce the amount of air and water pollution released into the environment, including greenhouse gases.

For more information on recycling, visit our Web site, www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords "recycling index." ♦

Waste not, want not Earth-friendly tips you can't afford to ignore

Like other Americans, Bloomington residents create and discard more waste than ever. We all need to work on reducing the amount of waste we create. Buy only what you need, and buy used or borrow items if possible.

Buy wisely

Think about ways to reuse items or reduce waste when shopping. Differentiate between what you need and what you want. Hold off purchasing an item for a few days to find out if your desires stand the test of time so you aren't spending your hard-earned money on impulsive buys. The fewer material goods you acquire, the more money you'll have to spend on other things – like the trip you've always wanted to take.

Earth-friendly tips

♦ Use cloth diapers. Disposable diapers put plastics that contain chemicals next to your child's skin. An estimated 18 billion disposable diapers wind up in landfills every year and they take 500 years to decompose.

♦ Use less packaging. Buy detergents, dog food, pasta, cereal, cleaners and paper products in bulk; they are used often and have long shelf-lives. Buying in bulk decreases waste, costs less and you won't have to go to the store as often.

♦ Avoid buying single-use items like paper or plastic plates, cups and disposable silverware.

Americans throw away enough disposable diapers each year to stretch from the moon and back at least **7** times.

♦ Instead of buying individual plastic bottles of water, buy a water filter if you feel it's necessary. Or drink it from the tap! In a blind taste test, Bloomington's water was selected 2-to-1 over bottled water as having the better taste. In addition, the price of one bottle of designer water equals 5,376 equivalent-sized bottles of City water.

Every hour, Americans use an estimated **2,500,000** plastic bottles. Only a small portion get recycled.



♦ Reuse plastic and paper garbage bags when shopping. Shoppers use nearly 40 billion bags each year. Most are only used once and thrown away. Many grocery stores offer a discount when you reuse your bag. Better yet, bring a reusable cloth bag with you when shopping. ♦



If 25 percent of American families used just **10** fewer plastic bags each month, an estimated **2,500,000,000** bags could be saved from landfills each year!

Spend money Earth-wisely

The recyclable materials that you set out to be collected – paper, glass, plastics and metals – are made into products again. For manufacturers to continue to use recyclables, you need to create a demand by buying recycled products.

Manufacturing recycled products

- ♦ Preserves natural resources.
- ♦ Uses less energy to produce recycled products.
- ♦ Creates less air and water pollution.
- ♦ Conserves landfill space.
- ♦ Saves money and creates jobs.



Make the products in this bin more valuable. Buy recycled products!

To identify recycled products, read the label.

Paper – school supplies, stationery, and envelopes.

Automotive – funnels, oil pans, vinyl flooring.

Building materials – ceiling tile, decking, insulation.

Flooring – carpet, wood, tile.

Gifts – candles, jewelry, glass dinnerware.

Landscaping – mulch, fencing, landscape rock. ♦

Get the most out of what you buy

Nothing lasts forever. The things we buy today will eventually become waste in the future. More than one million pounds of electronics and appliances were recycled last year at the South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Materials Drop-off Center. How many of those items were inexpensive, unreliable products that should have lasted longer? Before buying, ask yourself the following questions in order to protect your investment and prevent wasting time and money.

Questions you should ask

■ **Is it reliable?** Ask the "experts" — people or organizations who have tested or repaired the product you want to buy. Evaluate the repair history of that product.

■ **Are the warranties comparable?** A longer warranty suggests that the manufacturer feels confident that it will last longer.

■ **How long do you need it?** Are you purchasing a less reliable product because it's inexpensive and you don't want to invest in something that you'll rarely use? Consider renting or borrowing the item instead. Why buy – and then store – something you don't really need?

■ **What does it really cost?** The purchase price is not the same as the cost to use and maintain a product. The longer you own something, the less it costs.

■ **Can I repair or upgrade it?** Buying products that are easy to repair or improve will make your initial investment last longer.

For more information, visit www.reduce.org. ♦

Credits: Hennepin County Environmental Services; Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance's "If not you, who?" campaign; One Makes the Difference-Inspiring Actions that Change Our World by Julia Butterfly Hill.

Changing attitudes about recycling



A recycling bin next to a trash bin at the curb has become a familiar site to city residents.

Attitudes continue to change about the need to preserve natural resources. A World Summit on Sustainable Development was held last month in South Africa to bring about a positive change in our environment on the global level. Locally, our attitude about recycling has transformed in the last 16 years.

Recycling at the curb has become a habit for us. In 1986, Hennepin County passed a recycling ordinance and increased residents' awareness about the waste they were creating and the necessity of recycling. One-by-one we have made a difference. Today, residents do a great job of recycling. In 2001, more than 45,000 people dropped off materials at the problem waste and recycling facility. *See sidebar for materials accepted.*

The results of recycling

A 2001 report from the South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Materials Drop-off Center shows that residents recycled 250,000 gallons of household hazardous waste, 650 tons of problem materials and 820 tons of recyclables.

Look at some of the materials recycled:

◆ **128,145 gallons of paint** - would paint the exterior of 8,000 homes.

◆ **54,840 gallons of petroleum car products** - that amount in gas would fill your car's gas tank once a week for 60 years.

◆ **45 tons of tires** - would outfit 900 cars with four retreaded tires. ◆

South Hennepin County Problem Waste and Recycling Facility

1400 West 96th Street,
612-348-3777

◆ Hazardous waste: Paints, motor oil, solvents, household chemicals.

◆ Tires and batteries.

◆ Electronics: TVs, computers, stereos.

◆ Recyclables: Bottles, cans, paper.

◆ Gas-powered, refrigeration appliances. For camper refrigerators and air conditioners, call 612-348-5832.

Recycling plastic is good Choosing other packaging is even better

More than 10 percent of the waste thrown away is plastic. Most of this material ends up in landfills where it will remain buried, and unchanged, for thousands of years. The best option for our environment is to limit use of plastic products. When you are shopping, choose other types of packaging and containers. Glass and aluminum

are better options - these materials are more easily recycled and less likely to spend the next thousand years in the local landfill.

Plastic containers - What is and is not recyclable

◆ A bottle that did not contain hazardous liquid can be recycled. The caps and lids must be removed and thrown in the trash.

◆ If the container contents can be poured out it can be recycled when empty. This includes milk, pop, juice and detergent bottles. Please remember to rinse out the contents.

◆ If you scoop the contents out of the container, such as yogurt and peanut butter, these containers cannot be recycled at this time. ◆



Got plastic? Recycle the milk jug

Plastic can be recycled and made into other plastic products.

◆ Milk, juice and detergent jugs will be transformed into **lawn edging**, detergent and **motor oil bottles**, plastic lumber and **siding**, **grocery bags**, bathroom stalls and toys.

◆ Pop and food bottle jars are made into carpet, strapping, auto parts and tennis balls. ◆

What you can do to reduce global warming

Take action. There are many ways you and your family can help reduce carbon dioxide emissions - a major contributor to global warming. These tips from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will save you money while helping the environment.

◆ When you replace your automobile, purchase a **fuel-efficient car** that gets up to 32 miles per gallon or more.



◆ Insulate your home, tune-up your furnace and install **low-flow shower heads**.

◆ Replace some of the light bulbs in your home with **compact fluorescent light bulbs**.



◆ Install a **solar thermal system** to help provide your hot water.

◆ Drive less. Take **public transportation** to work, school or to run errands.



◆ **Plant additional trees** around your home to provide shade.



◆ Buy appliances, such as refrigerators or washing machines, that are **high-efficiency, low-energy-use models**. ◆



New to recycling!

Propane tanks are now accepted at LeRoy's Tire Center at 90th and Lyndale. The dropoff fee is \$5.

Plastic facts

It takes **5** recycled plastic bottles to make enough fiberfill for 1 ski jacket.

Every year enough plastic film is made to shrink-wrap **Texas!**

Virtual volunteer center

Welcome to the World Wide Web of volunteering! Youth service opportunities, family volunteer opportunities and links to important volunteer sites are available online. Visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword "volunteer." ♦

Life is Like Valued Patchwork

Bloomington Human Services introduces another exciting season of Life is Like a Valued Patchwork. The monthly program offers a variety of learning opportunities and a continental breakfast. Programs are held at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, from 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Unless otherwise noted, cost is \$3, payable at the door. To register, call 952-563-4957 V/TTY. Need a ride? Call 952-563-4948.

Wednesday, October 23 – Quiet Miracles

What's your best chance to slow down, stop or even reverse chronic illness? The advice of long-term cancer survivors may surprise you. Join pharmacist and cancer survivor Sid Levinsohn as he addresses issues including:

- ♦ Defying the odds and conquering a chronic illness.
- ♦ Choosing the safest, newest and best conventional and alternative wellness options.
- ♦ Ending the fear and worry that come with a life-threatening illness.

For information on upcoming Patchwork presentations, visit the City of Bloomington's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword "patchwork." ♦

For more information on the following programs, call

Bloomington Public Health,
952-563-8900 V/TTY.

Flu shots

Flu season is November through April, peaking in late December through March. The best way to avoid getting the flu is by getting a flu shot, available through your health care provider. Bloomington Public Health will hold a community flu shot clinic on November 4 from 9 - 11 a.m. in Room 100 at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S.



Breast Cancer Screening

The cause of breast cancer has not been determined, but simply being a woman and getting older puts you at risk. Surviving breast cancer and increasing your treatment options begins with early detection. A mammogram, a special x-ray of the breast, can detect a lump one to three years before it can be felt through a clinical breast exam. In addition to a mammogram, a clinical exam should be performed yearly and self-exams should be performed monthly. If you are unable to afford a mammogram, Bloomington Public Health offers free or low-cost screenings to qualified individuals.

Health Risk Assessment Clinics

The Health Risk Assessment Clinic is a low-cost screening and education program. Held quarterly, these clinics offer three low-cost tests: cholesterol, lipid profile or complete blood chemistry. Tests include a one-hour education session that reviews your results and how they relate to your risk for heart disease. Clinics are held the second Tuesday of January, April, July and October. Call Bloomington Public Health for an appointment. ♦

Bloomington Yesterday



Bloomington Police Department in 1953

Chief Clay Nord, Officers Art Isaacson, Paul Block, James Brekken and one patrol car (not shown) formed the Bloomington Police Department in 1953. Residents were split on whether to change from the constable system in place since 1858 when the area

became a town. By 1953, Bloomington was incorporated as a village and growing rapidly. Many people felt the town of 14,000 needed a police department. Nord, a longtime town board member, became the first police chief. In the department's early years, officers handled

increases in "rush hour traffic on thoroughfares" and averted "the possibility of severe crime epidemics." They also dealt with complaints about garbage dumping, unlicensed dogs and family disputes. All this for \$325 a month and no overtime! ♦

Opportunity to serve

The City Council is seeking applicants to serve on the following advisory boards and commissions for terms beginning January 2003. Youth positions are available on the Human Rights and Parks, Arts and Recreation Commissions.

For more information or an application, call the board or commission in which you are interested or the City Manager's Office at 952-563-8780. To download an application visit the City's web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords "Advisory Boards." Applications must be received by Friday, December 13, for consideration at a City Council organizational meeting in January.

Advisory Board of Health

952-563-8919

Advises the Council on issues related to personal and public health of residents. There are positions for both health care providers and consumers.

Board of Appeal and Equalization

952-563-4247

Hears appeals of property values established by City Assessor. Members must have experience as appraiser, Realtor, real estate attorney, property manager or be familiar with real estate valuation in the city.

Human Rights Commission

952-563-8733
TTY: 952-563-8740

Advises the Council on matters regarding human rights, mediates discrimination complaints, provides education and advocates for human rights issues.

Merit Board

952-563-8710

Oversees the administration of the merit system for City employees. The member board establishes and maintains rules and policies for human resource administration. The board meets as necessary.

Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission

952-563-8877

Advises the Council on matters of capital development, improvement and maintenance of city parks as well as recreation and cultural arts programs.

Planning Commission

952-562-8920

Holds public hearings and makes recommendations to the Council on land use, long-range development strategies, development applications and zoning.

Traffic and Transportation Advisory Commission

952-563-4913

Considers traffic and transportation aspects of existing and new development in the city, concentrates on preservation and service of the existing transportation system, holds public hearings regarding neighborhood traffic concerns, considers improvements or changes and conducts study projects. ♦

Galaxy Youth Centers

- ♦ Oak Grove Middle School, 1300 W. 106th St.
- ♦ Olson Middle School, 4551 W. 102nd St.
- ♦ Valley View Middle School, 8900 Portland Ave.

Galaxy Youth Centers provide a safe and nurturing environment where sixth to eighth grade youth can discover themselves through recreation, social interaction, community involvement, education and

service to others. Centers are open weekdays from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 952-886-8848. ♦

PARKS, RECREATION & ARTS UPDATE

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877.



Hey, boys and ghouls!

Bloomington's Annual Citywide Halloween Party will take place on Thursday, October 31, from 6 - 8 p.m. at Northwestern Health Sciences University, West 84th Street and Penn Avenue South. Pre-schoolers through fourth graders, accompanied by an adult, are invited to this fun and safe event. Activities include "Trick-or-Treat Alley," games, prizes, coloring contest awards and much more. Admission is free, but please bring a non-perishable food item for the V.E.A.P. Food Shelf. The event is sponsored by the Bloomington Breakfast Optimist Club.

The coloring contest is available on-line at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords "Halloween coloring contest." ♦



Sports

Tennis Lessons

When: October 23 - November 28.

Times: Beginner Wednesdays 6 - 7 p.m.
Intermediate Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: 98th Street Northwest Athletic Club.

Cost: \$49.50.

Men's Basketball League

When: Starts Tuesday, November 26.

International C Tuesdays.
Industrial D Wednesdays.
Continental C Thursdays.
National D Sundays.

Where: Bloomington Armory, 3300 West 98th Street.

Cost: \$440 per team.

Deadline: November 8.

Women's Basketball League

When: Sunday afternoons starting December 1.

Where: Bloomington Armory, 3300 West 98th Street.

Cost: \$440 per team.

Deadline: November 8.

BAA Community Hockey

Bloomington Athletic Association (BAA) offers recreational/competitive hockey for Bloomington youth. The mission of BAA hockey is to ensure that all youth who desire to learn to skate and play hockey have the opportunity. BAA has no boundaries within the city. Registration fees are affordable and assistance is available. Sixteen games are played and teams participate in at least one tournament. Ages range from 4½ years to grade 12.

Late sign ups are being conducted through November 15. To register, call Jerry Kaley at 952-854-1970, or E-mail: jpkaley@aol.com. In BAA hockey we develop skills, play hard, learn teamwork and most of all have fun!



Hockey Tournaments

Bloomington Amateur Hockey Association will host the following tournaments at the Bloomington Ice Garden:

Regional Holiday Tournament, December 26 - 31.

More than 60 Pee Wee and Bantam level teams participate.

The Bloomington Squirt Invitational, January 15 - 19.

For more information, call Doug Munn at 952-884-7036 or visit www.bloomingtonhockey.com.

Explore the classical art of ballet

Beginner, intermediate and advanced classical ballet lessons are offered for children and adults at the Bloomington Ice Garden. For more information, call Continental Ballet Company at 952-837-3844. Continental Ballet Company is a nonprofit, professional ballet company based in Bloomington.

On the Net

The Three Rivers Park District Web site contains helpful information about parks, trails, programs and facilities. Guests can print out a color map of their favorite park, register for ski lessons, peruse our calendar for fun activities, become a Park Patron, donate to the Forests Forever reforestation program or buy unique gifts. Links are available to other natural resource or recreation-related Web sites. Visit www.ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org.



Three Rivers Park District (Formerly Hennepin Parks)

Hyland Lake Visitor Center 952-941-4362
Richardson Nature Center 952-941-7993
Chalet Drive Golf Practice Center 952-835-4250
District Trail Hotline 763-559-6778
District Program Infoline 763-559-6721

Located in the heart of Bloomington, the 1,000-acre Hyland Lake Park Reserve offers numerous fall activities for all ages and abilities. Equipment rental and lessons are available at reasonable rates. For more information, call 952-941-4362 or visit www.ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org.

For information on **Hyland Ski and Snowboard Area**, call 952-835-4250 or visit www.hylandski.com. ♦



Bloomington Art Center

10206 Penn Avenue South
Phone 952-563-4777

Boutique of Arts and Crafts

Hand-selected, unique items for sale include artwork, pottery and jewelry. Admission is free.

When: Thursday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where: Bloomington Art Center (BAC).

The BAC Gallery Players present "War of the Worlds"

A "Radio Theater Live" performance from the original script as presented on October 30, 1938, by Orson Wells and the Mercury Theater on the Air.

When: Saturday, October 26, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S.

Admission: \$5. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Art Center.

Guitar Concert

Paul Hintz, jazz guitarist, will perform a free concert of mainstream jazz songs on a seven-string guitar.

When: Sunday, Nov. 3, 4 p.m.

Where: BAC Gallery. ♦

Bloomington Civic Theatre

presents



Evenings at 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday - Saturday,
October 31 - November 2,
November 7 - 9,
November 14 - 16,
November 21 - 23.

Matinees at 2 p.m.:

Sundays, November 3,
10, 17, 24.

Where: Richfield Middle School, 75th St. at Oliver Ave. S., Richfield.

Tickets: Call 612-825-7667. ♦

AR&LE The Adaptive Recreation and Learning Exchange offers fun programs and informative classes for individuals with disabilities living in the southern metro area. Sponsored by the cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield, and the Community Education Adults with Disabilities programs in these communities, AR&LE produces a quarterly catalog that details all of its year-round activities. For more information, call Bloomington Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877; TTY 952-563-8740 or E-mail: parksrec@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Help wanted: Rink and building attendants

Skating rink/building attendants are needed for the winter season, December 21, 2002, through February 9, 2003. Applicants should be 17 years of age or older and available to work 15 to 20 hours per week on weekday afternoons, evenings and weekends. Pay ranges from \$9.80 to \$10.15 per hour, depending on experience.

Job descriptions and applications are available at Parks and Recreation, located in the lower level of City Hall, 2215 W. Old Shakopee Road. To receive an application by mail, call 952-563-8877. Applications must be received by December 6. ♦



State General Elections

Tuesday, November 5
Polling places open from
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Federal, state and county candidates take the spotlight in this year's November 5 general election.

Where do I vote?

Due to redistricting, some precincts and legislative boundaries have changed. Find your voting location from the map or call Voter Registration at 952-563-8729 (TTY: 952-563-8740).

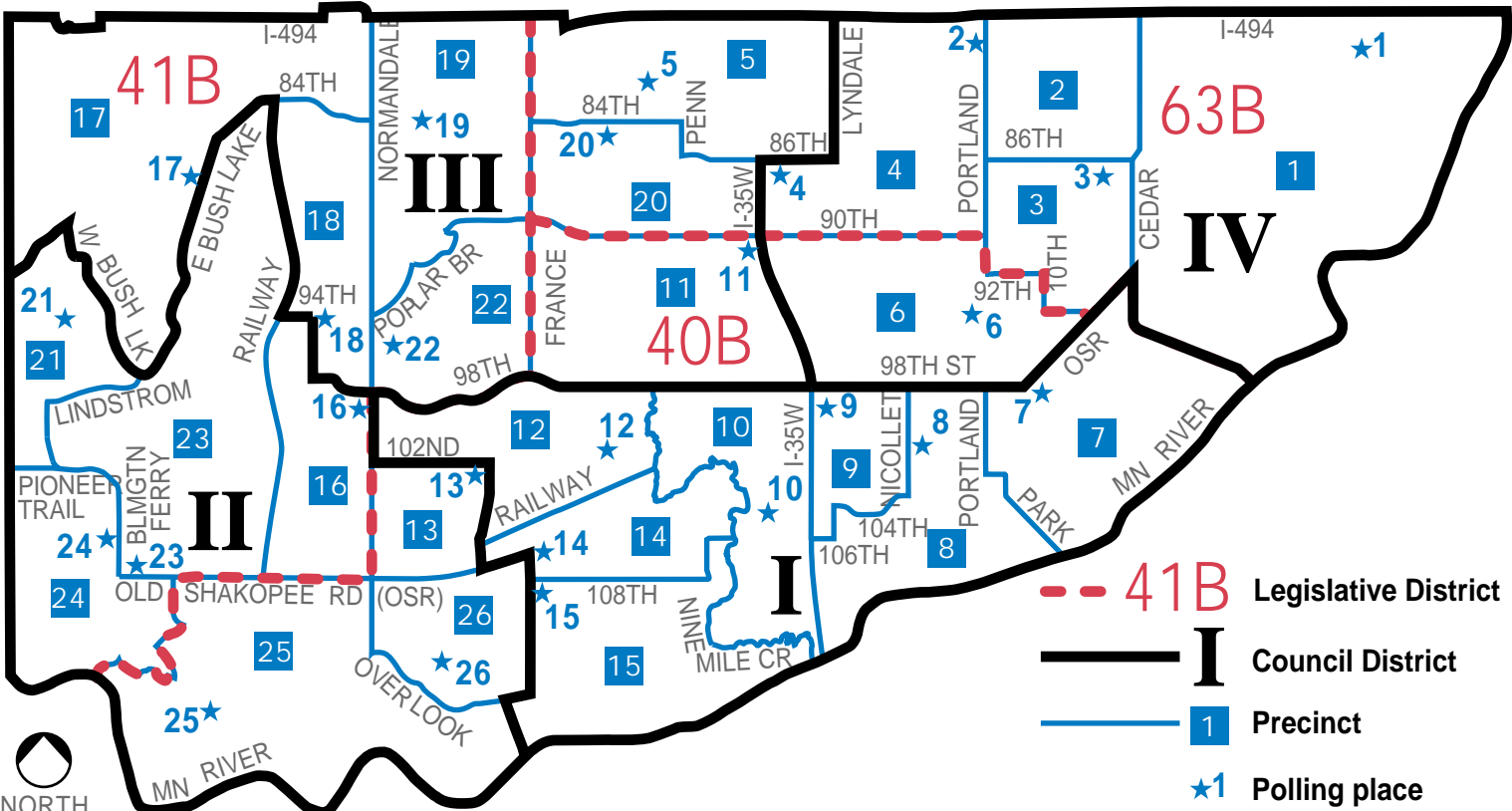
Can I get assistance?

If you need help to read or mark your ballot, ask the election judges for assistance. All Bloomington polling places are accessible, with clearly marked doors and parking spaces. If you can't leave your car, have an assistant ask an election judge to bring a ballot to you at the curb.

Absentee ballots?

Absentee ballots are available at City Hall, 2215 West Old Shakopee Road. For an application to vote by absentee ballot, go to City Hall or download the form from our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword "voting". If you have a permanent disability, contact Voter Registration at 952-563-8729 (TTY: 952-563-8740) to receive a special absentee ballot application. ♦

Bloomington polling places



PRECINCT/POLLING LOCATION	ENTRANCE/PARKING
1 MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge 3815 East 80th Street	West entrance Visitor lot (W)
2 Portland Avenue Methodist Church 8000 Portland Avenue South	Main entrance West lot
3 Cedar Valley Church 8600 Bloomington Avenue	North entrance North lot
4 Christ the King Lutheran Church 8600 Fremont Avenue South	SW entrance SW lot
5 Southtown Baptist Church 2600 West 82nd Street	Main entrance(E) East lot
6 Bloomington Lutheran Church 9350 Portland Avenue South	Main entrance South lot
7 Indian Mounds Elementary School 9801 - 11th Avenue South	Main entrance(N) Northwest lot
8 Riverside Reformed Church 10201 Nicollet Avenue South	North entrance East lot
9 Nativity of Mary School 9901 East Bloomington Freeway	NE sch. entrance NE lot
10 Oak Grove Elementary School 1301 West 104th Street	Main entrance East lot
11 Bloomington Christian Church 9000 West Bloomington Freeway	South entrance South lot
12 Bloomington Covenant Church 10150 Xerxes Avenue South	NE entrance NE lot
13 Olson Elementary School 4501 West 102nd Street	Main entr.(NW) West lot - disabled use front drive
14 Mount Hope Lutheran Church 3601 West Old Shakopee Road	Main entrance(S) South lot

PRECINCT/POLLING LOCATION	ENTRANCE/PARKING
15 Westwood Elementary School 3701 West 108th Street	Main entrance(N) West lot
16 Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church 9920 Normandale Boulevard South	NE entrance (Left doors) North lot
17 Peace Lutheran Church 8600 East Bush Lake Road	Main entrance North lot
18 The Church of St Edward's 9401 Nesbitt Avenue South	SW entrance- Upper Level SW lot
19 Poplar Bridge Elementary School 8401 Palmer Avenue	Main entrance(W) N lot - disabled use West side
20 Washburn Elementary School 8401 Xerxes Avenue South	Main entrance NE lot
21 Sunrise Park Shelter 9401 Bloomington Ferry Road	Only entrance(N) North lot
22 Normandale Hills Elem School 9501 Toledo Avenue South	Main entrance West lot
23 Community of the Cross Lutheran Church 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance(N) North lot
24 Bloomington Lutheran School 10600 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance(S) S lot - disabled use East side
25 Bethany Missionary Church 6820 Auto Club Road	East entrance North lot
26 Southwood Elementary School 4901 West 112th Street	West entrance West lot

The City of Bloomington is trying to learn about how we can better inform our residents. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey.

How are we doing?

How valuable are the following forms of communication?
Circle the number you believe is most correct.

	Not valuable	Somewhat valuable	Very valuable	Don't know
Bloomington Briefing newsletter	1	2	3	4
City Web site (www.ci.bloomington.mn.us)	1	2	3	4
Cable: City Council/Planning Commission meetings	1	2	3	4
Cable: "Bloomington Today" show	1	2	3	4
Cable: "Crime Time" show	1	2	3	4
Cable: "City Matters" show	1	2	3	4
Cable: B.R.A.I.N. (channel 96)	1	2	3	4

How can we help you learn about what's going on in the City?

Who are you? Please check one. ☐ Resident; ☐ Business; ☐ Other.

Return your comments

- ♦ Mail: Diann Kirby, 2215 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington, MN 55431-3096
- ♦ Phone: 952-563-8818
- ♦ E-mail: dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- ♦ On-line: Complete the survey electronically at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

Thank you for helping us with this survey!